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From the Land

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HARTFORD
CONNECTICUT

Chapman Pond Preserve Nears Completion with 61-Acre Purchase

15 Years of Conservation Bring Acreage at Site to 490

The Connecticut Chapter in March purchased a 61-acre upland parcel at the Chapman Pond Preserve in East Haddam, the last significant unprotected tract in the area, bringing the total acreage protected at the site to 490.

The Conservancy bought the land for a total of \$285,000 from brothers Van G. Kellems and David C. Kellems, both of whom live outside Connecticut. As with all of our land acquisitions, we will use the money from our fundraising to pay for this purchase.

The acquisition of this parcel allows the Conservancy to improve public access to the preserve for hiking and nature study with seasonally accessible trails. This purchase nearly brings the Conservancy's land protection work at the site to completion. The Conservancy has been building its Chapman Pond preserve for 15 years, ever since its first 301-acre purchase in 1982, and has been

seeking a sale agreement with the Kellems brothers for more than 10 years.

"This is a major milestone for the Conservancy," said Chapter Executive Director Denise Schlener. "This purchase

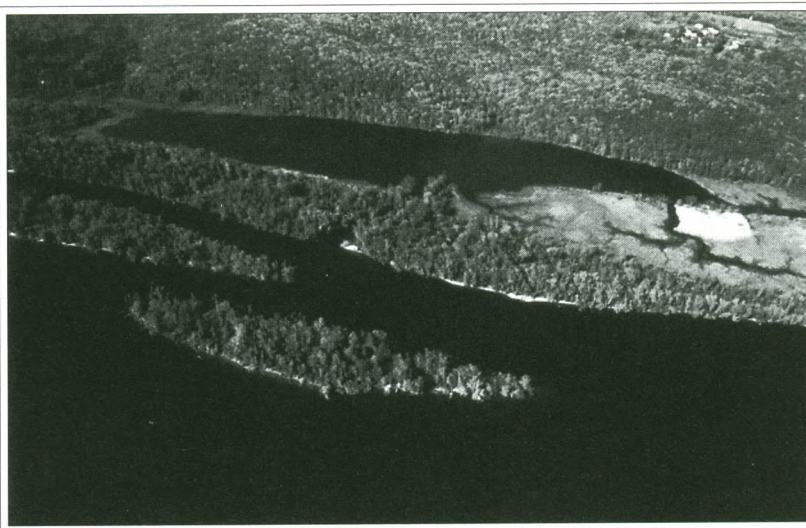
The Kellems property is adjacent to Conservancy-owned land to the north, west, and south, and has about 800 feet of frontage on River Road to the east. Subdivision and development of the property could have

increased runoff and erosion in the preserve, and intensified human presence could have disturbed the federally threatened bald eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) that roost on the pond in the winter. Instead, the new tract secures 61 acres of mostly mixed hardwood forest, stands of hemlocks, and two small vernal pools near the road.

Chapman Pond is located just east of the Connecticut River between the Goodspeed Opera House and Gillette Castle State Park. The area includes a 60-acre tidal freshwater pond, 130 acres of tidal wetlands, 80 acres of forested floodplain, and more than 400 acres of forested upland.

Chapman Pond is an excellent site for recreational nature study, hiking, birdwatching, canoeing and kayaking. Two inlets, one

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Chapman Pond, East Haddam.

represents the completion of 15 years of work. The Conservancy is patient and non-confrontational; we only work with willing sellers, so we have to be. That's why nearly completing a critical preserve like Chapman Pond is so significant, and so rewarding."

SUMMER/FALL 1997

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Beyond 10 Million

If you're someone who tracks The Nature Conservancy's progress, you might have noticed that we recently reached an important milestone: 10 million acres protected.

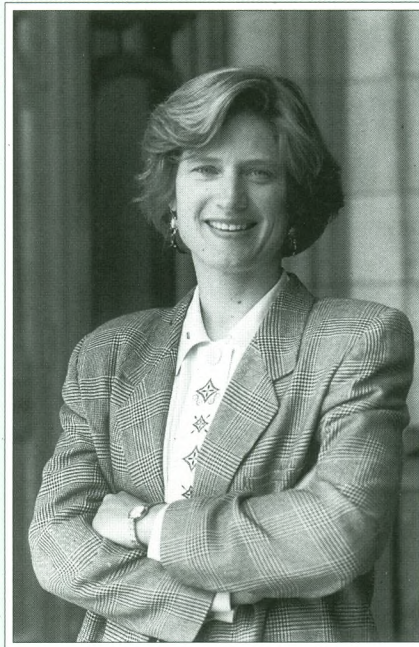
What does that really mean? To give you a picture, 10 million acres is about 15,620 square miles, or slightly more than the combined areas of Connecticut, Delaware, New Jersey, and Rhode Island. Those 10 million acres include land the Conservancy actually owns, as well as conservation easements, management agreements, conservation areas the Conservancy assisted in creating, and land protection through several other conservation tools. Although it includes a relatively small number of acres in Canada, it does not include land the Conservancy has helped its international partners protect in Latin America and the Caribbean, a figure that is now more than 59 million acres.

While Connecticut is a small, densely populated state, our contribution toward the total is approximately 21,000 acres. This modest but proud figure is the result of 37 years of generosity by donors and landowners, of leadership by our board, of hard work and resourcefulness by our staff and volunteers. It began with the purchase of 197 acres at Beckley Bog in Norfolk in 1957, and was rounded out by our 61-acre purchase at Chapman Pond in March. Today, the Connecticut chapter manages 57 preserves across the state.

While counting acres is one way to measure the Conservancy's success, it's important to keep the numbers in

perspective. After all, The Nature Conservancy is much more than a land protection machine. Every piece of land the Conservancy protects — however we go about it — we protect for a reason. The land we are interested in supports rare animals, plants, or natural communities, and it sometimes takes years of research,

© Michael Marziano



consideration, and negotiations before we conclude that the benefit to biological diversity is comparable to the cost of purchasing and caring for a given piece of land.

A far more challenging and accurate measurement of our success would be of plants, animals, and natural communities

saved from extinction — but how do we measure that? The Conservancy's Ecoregional Conservation initiative begins to address the issue. This new initiative focuses our conservation work across state and national boundaries on the most critical habitats and populations of the rarest species. While the Conservancy is grappling with the practical application of this relatively new concept, I am confident that this exacting effort will be rewarded with our dramatically increased effectiveness.

Here in Connecticut we have gradually changed our focus from individual, isolated preserves to work in landscape-scale ecological systems such as the Tidelands of the Connecticut River and the state's northwest corner, where opportunities exist to protect contiguous tracts of more than 10,000 acres. Land protection through gifts and purchases remains at the heart of this ambitious conservation program. Increasingly, however, the Conservancy is employing other strategies, including education and outreach, to achieve its mission.

As a member of the Conservancy, you should take pride in the 10 million-acre mark; it couldn't have happened without your support. At the same time, we must challenge ourselves to look beyond that number to the green, flowering, buzzing, many-footed natural world, and ask ourselves, once again, "How do we make certain this will be here for generations to come?"

— DENISE SCHLENER
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY AT WORK

	Worldwide	Connecticut
Total Transactions:	18,707	665
Total Acres		
Protected:	10,235,000	20,998
Members:	883,704	19,856
Corporate Associates:	1,900	32

As you open this season's newsletter you will notice something new — a contribution envelope. This provides an opportunity for you to make a gift at any time of year. It will be used toward all of our programs or a specific program you choose to designate. It is entirely up to you!

All membership contributions to our Acorn and Charter Oak Council support programs right here in Connecticut. We hope you will pass on your commitment to our work by sharing your newsletter with a friend. This is how we grow — at the local level with *your help*.

For more information about membership, please call Vunay Talbot at 860-344-0716. If you have questions about our Acorn program, please contact Helene Fenger at the same number.

Thank you!

Chapman Pond Preserve Nears Completion

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natural and one man-made, connect the pond to the Connecticut River, subjecting it to daily tidal flooding. The pond is surrounded by a flood-plain forest and freshwater marshes harboring four rare plant species. Trails wind along steep wooded slopes, including river terraces that fringe the pond's northeastern edge. Many bird species take advantage of the area's varied habitats, while native brook trout inhabit the adjacent tributaries.

Although the Conservancy's land protection work at Chapman Pond is essentially complete, small individually-owned parcels remain around the pond's perimeter that the Conservancy would like to see under protection.

The Conservancy will remain active at this preserve, monitoring the populations of its rare plants and animals, and working to control invasive species such as the common reed *Phragmites*, purple loosestrife, Japanese stilt grass, and others.

— JOHN MATTHIESSEN

© Robert Perron



Chapman Pond, East Haddam.

History of Chapman Pond Preserve

1982 Preserve established when 301 acres are purchased from the Kellems Family for \$700,000 in a cooperative effort between the Conservancy, the East Haddam Land Trust, the Connecticut River Gateway Commission, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and hundreds of individual donors.

1985 20 more acres purchased by the Conservancy and the U.S. Soil Conservation Service.

1986 Mr. & Mrs. Peter E.V. Paris Sr. of Greenwich donate five acres to Conservancy.

1990 Philip Johnston of Landsdale, Penn. donates 19 acres to the Conservancy.

1990 Louis van de Velde of Wickford, R.I. donates 0.81 acres to Conservancy.

1991 Chapter purchases 83 acres from Bob & Anita Ballek.

1997 Chapter purchases 61 acres from Van & David Kellems.

Species Found at Chapman Pond

Birds:

Bald eagle
Belted kingfisher
Black-crowned night heron
Black duck
Canada goose
Great blue heron
Great egret
Great horned owl
Mallard
Osprey
Red-tailed hawk
Snowy egret
Wood duck

Reptiles & Amphibians:

American toad
Black rat snake
Bullfrog
Dusky salamander
Green frog
Red backed salamander
Ring-necked snake
Snapping turtle

Mammals:

Coyote
Eastern cottontail rabbit
Muskrat
Red fox
River otter
White-tailed deer

Plants:

Black birch
Flowering dogwood
Hemlock
Silver maple
Sugar maple
Winterberry
Cinnamon fern
Pink ladyslipper
Star grass
Wild sarsaparilla

Fish:

Brook trout
Largemouth bass
Northern pike

United Technologies Donates \$250,000 for Land Protection in Tidelands Region

On April 22, 1997, the 27th anniversary of Earth Day, United Technologies Corporation announced a two-year, \$250,000 grant to protect critical natural areas along the lower Connecticut River.

United Technologies' recent \$250,000 pledge to the Conservancy will support land conservation in the Tidelands of the Connecticut River region. This year's \$125,000 installment will contribute to recent purchases at the Chapman Pond Preserve in East Haddam, the Pratt/Post Cove Preserve in Deep River, and the Selden Creek Preserve in Lyme. These areas are key sites in the Tidelands of the Connecticut River, one of the Conservancy's 40 international Last Great Places.

"These are nature preserves that people of this region will enjoy — both by visiting them in person, and by marveling at the rare species, such as the federally threatened bald eagle, that need these places to survive," said Leslie Carothers, vice president for environment, health and safety at UTC. "The environmental health of this region is a high priority for UTC."

UTC announced the donation during a



Volunteers from United Technologies get ready for action at the Great Pond Preserve in Glastonbury on Earth Day.

work party break at Great Pond in Glastonbury, where approximately 20 UTC employees volunteered to help clear trails and post signs on Earth Day. The town and The Nature Conservancy jointly manage the town-owned, 75-acre preserve. In December 1991, the town of Glastonbury and the

Conservancy entered into an agreement to manage the preserve. The 12-acre pond at the site is one of the two largest "drawdown" ponds in Connecticut, which means it undergoes great fluctuations in water level.

"UTC's donation of both funds and volunteers is a great example of how industries and conservation groups can work together to accomplish great things," said Denise Schlener, Executive Director of the Connecticut Chapter.

United Technologies, based in Hartford, provides high technology products to the aerospace, building systems and automotive industries throughout the world. The company has been supporting The Nature Conservancy for two decades, with donations totaling more than \$500,000.

The chapter plans to make trail access to Chapman Pond available this summer, and Selden Creek now has an extensive trail system. Pratt and Post Coves are popular destinations by canoe and kayak.

The Great Pond Preserve in Glastonbury, where UTC volunteers worked clearing trails on Earth Day, was officially opened on June 14.

— JOHN MATTHIESSEN



Chapter Executive Director Denise Schlener (left) and United Technologies Vice President for Environment, Health & Safety Leslie Carothers at the announcement of UTC's generous donation.

A Troublesome Plant Found in Connecticut Waters

Many chapter members are becoming more familiar with the term "invasive species." This term describes prolific non-native species such as the beautiful but destructive purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*), seen on the cover of the November/December 1996 issue of *Nature Conservancy* magazine, and the common reed (*Phragmites australis*), which was recently the subject of a major article in the *Hartford Courant*.

Last year, University of Connecticut Associate Professor and aquatic plant specialist Don Les discovered a new invasive plant in Connecticut waters, which has the unwelcome distinction as "one of the world's worst weeds."

So far, researchers have found *Hydrilla verticillata*, also known as water thyme, at just one location in Connecticut. This aquatic plant is more common in the South, particularly Florida, where it is rapidly replacing native vegetation in many waterways, and officials consider it "the most problematic plant" in that state.

Hydrilla is not easy to identify. It is a submerged perennial, and is either rooted in wetland soil or free-floating. The leaf has sharply serrated margins and a prominent red midrib on its underside. When drawn through the hand, it feels brittle and scratchy. In its native habitat, *Hydrilla* is capable of reproducing via seeds, stolons, rhizomes or tubers; the latter three are above- and below-ground stems that can produce new plants. In the United States, however, it reproduces predominantly by vegetative means, in which small segments from a parent plant break off and sprout new roots and leaves.

As a wetland plant, *Hydrilla* can be found in springs, ponds, marshes, slow-moving streams and even tidal waters. Once established, it clogs waterways, hindering fisheries, waterfowl and boat traffic. Although native to Africa, it now has an impressive distribution worldwide. Its discovery in Connecticut represents the most north-eastern documented occurrence of this species in North America.

Scientists believe this plant was originally introduced in the United States for use in the aquarium trade by an aquatic plant dealer in Ohio in the late 1940s. Botanists in Florida observed it naturalized there in 1960. By 1967, *hydrilla* had infested more than 35,000 acres in that state. Today, Florida state records document it as present in 57,000 acres, and agencies have spent more than \$49 million to control it. In Connecticut, it was likely introduced through the careless disposal of aquarium plants, or may have come in on other commercial water plants such as water lilies imported from infested waters further south.

There is no effective way of controlling this plant once it has become established in a region. In California, officials have used sterile herbivorous fish as a successful control in closed water systems, such as irrigation canals. In Connecticut, early detection and removal may be the best hope. For more information, please contact Les Mehrhoff, curator of the George Stafford Torrey Herbarium at the University of Connecticut at (860) 486-1889, or Don Les at (860) 486-5703.

— JUDY PRESTON



Hydrilla verticillata
(illustration courtesy
U.S. Department of Agriculture)

Northeast Utilities Donates Chevrolet Suburban



Chapter Trustee Evan Griswold, Executive Director Denise Schlener, Northeast Utilities Chair Bernard M. Fox, and NU Director of Environmental, Health & Safety Dennis E. Welch (left to right) with the Chevrolet Suburban truck NU donated to The Nature Conservancy.

Northeast Utilities in May donated a four-wheel drive Chevrolet Suburban truck to The Nature Conservancy Connecticut Chapter.

The chapter, which manages 57 preserves across the state, will use the vehicle primarily in support of its stewardship program. Last year, the chapter put 10,000 miles on the vehicle used mainly for this purpose.

NU recently took the truck out of service, fully reconditioned the engine and repainted the truck before donating it. The green-and-white, 8600-pound truck has a front bumper winch and a trailer hitch in the back. NU, New England's largest electric utility system, serves 1.7 million customers through its operating subsidiaries in Connecticut, Western Massachusetts and New Hampshire.

"This donation follows our tradition of helping organizations fulfill a commitment to the environment," said Dennis Welch, NU director of environmental, health and safety. "In past years we've been able to help The Nature Conservancy and other groups through such things as underwriting chapters, offering our facilities as a forum for

events, and educating the public on environmental stewardship. We're pleased we're now able to find a new value for a retired vehicle that will at the same time fill a need for the Conservancy."

"This is a wonderful and prized donation from a company that understands our needs," said Chapter Executive Director Denise Schlener. "Northeast Utilities has been a good friend to the Conservancy for many years, and we deeply appreciate their helping us pursue our mission here in Connecticut."

— JOHN MATTHIESSEN

Liberty Bank Staff Pitches In

On Saturday, June 7, four Liberty Bank volunteers joined a work party at the 150-acre Spiderweed Preserve in Middletown to perform trail maintenance. The volunteers cleared fallen branches and overgrown vegetation on nearly two miles of hiking trails. Pitching in for Liberty Bank were Sue Brown, Kathie Mann, Salvatore Milardo and Melanie Saussell.

Spiderweed, which was named by the preserve's donor for the condition in which she found her garden every spring, contains dry oak woods, large rock outcroppings, a small stream and red-maple-dominated areas. After rising from the preserve entrance on Dripps Road, the trail passes a beautiful south-facing vista before descending a steep hillside. Not well known, this preserve is just one of 57 owned by the Conservancy in Connecticut. Thanks to the Liberty Bank volunteers, the trail is in excellent condition and awaits visitors.

— DAVID GUMBART

Left to right are Kathie Mann and Salvatore Milardo of Liberty Bank; chapter volunteers Helen Kuzina of Middletown, Christa Sterling of Windsor, and Gerry Whitehead of Farmington; and Liberty Bank volunteer Melanie Saussell.



© David Gumbart

It's time to visit ... Dennis Farm Preserve, Pomfret

The 380-acre Dennis Farm Preserve in Pomfret is a little-known gem. Col. Edward B. Dennis purchased this aggregation of old farms over a number of years, and donated it to The Nature Conservancy in 1973. Today, only a few fields remain, and they are reverting to forest. The gently sloping preserve contains marshes, red maple wetlands, hemlock stands and oak-dominated forest.

A two-mile trail (part of which passes through adjacent 4H Camp property) is open to the public and provides an excellent hike for those looking to explore this part of eastern Connecticut. Indian pipe, found in rich woods, is one of the many plant species known at Dennis Farm. Lady's slipper, cinnamon and royal fern, jack in the pulpit, cardinal flower and lily of the valley are also found.

Birds found at Dennis Farm include scarlet tanager, rose-breasted grosbeak and blue-winged and chestnut-sided warblers in the summer, as well as hairy woodpecker, ruffed grouse and great-horned owl throughout the year.

Another species common to this area is the beaver. According to former Chapter Director of Science and Stewardship Susan Cooley in her 1982 book *Country Walks: A Guide to Nature Conservancy Preserves*, beavers were released here in 1954 at a time when they had vanished from the state. As it happened, a Connecticut game warden, while participating in the natural history exhibits at the Springfield Fair (now the "Big E"), approached a colleague from Maine whose exhibit included a colony of live beavers and a stuffed moose. The Connecticut warden got permission to take the beavers for release in his state. The beaver colony thrived and grew, and individuals were live-trapped for release elsewhere in the state.

Regardless of the season, Dennis Farm offers an excellent opportunity for an outdoor excursion. Wildflowers and birds are in abundance in spring and summer, fall colors can be enjoyed later in the year, and cross-country skiing is ideal if there is ample

snow cover. If you would like more information on this or any other Conservancy preserve, please feel free to contact our office.

— DAVID GUMBART

© Bruce Kershner



Indian pipes, one of the interesting plant species found at the Dennis Farm Preserve.

1997 Research Summary

In 1997 the Connecticut Chapter is again participating in more than 20 noteworthy research projects undertaken by chapter staff, interns, contractors, and other partners using a variety of funding sources. Some were initiated in previous years, and others will begin in the 1997 field season.

TIDELANDS RESEARCH

Continuing Tidelands Projects:

Sandy Prisloe of Envirographics and Dr. Nels Barrett received a Tidal Wetlands Research Grant to map the current extent and determine growth rate of common reed (*Phragmites australis*) in core Tidelands Sites. Field work was initiated in 1995 with a global positioning system (GPS), and the maps will be produced through a geographic information system (GIS). A final report will be submitted in December of 1997.

With financial support from the Bernice Barbour Foundation, the chapter is providing an intern to assist the state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in surveying for juvenile shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*), a federally endangered fish species. DEP hopes to radio-track

fish to ascertain important habitat areas in the Connecticut River. This project was initiated in 1994 and will continue for its fourth field season.

With a Conservancy Tidal Wetlands Research Grant, Wesleyan University researchers are employing a "side scan sonar" to map the floor of Long Island Sound near the mouth of the Connecticut River. Such information can provide valuable insights for interpreting important physical factors affecting the estuary. This study began in 1994 and concludes with a final report this year.

The chapter's effort to produce detailed maps of submerged aquatic vegetation (SAV) in the lower Connecticut River is completed. This effort, initiated in 1994 and funded by DEP, used a global positioning system to precisely map SAV boundaries. In a related project, University of Connecticut graduate student Robert Capers will conduct detailed follow-up sampling of SAV at one site in 1996 and 1997. His effort, supported by a chapter Tidal Wetlands Research Grant, will be the first attempt to monitor SAV beds originally mapped in 1994.

Bill Williams, a chapter volunteer, is working with the non-profit Connecticut River Watch Program to organize volunteers for water quality monitoring at Tidelands sites for the second year. Volunteers will participate in field sampling as well as laboratory analysis. Northeast Utilities is also assisting with water quality monitoring.

New Tidelands Projects:

The chapter is providing funding to the U.S. Forest Service to continue to study patterns of hemlock infestation due to the hemlock woolly adelgid, a non-native forest pest. Chapter funds are being used to support a U.S. Forest Service researcher who collects ecological data in various types of hemlock stands.

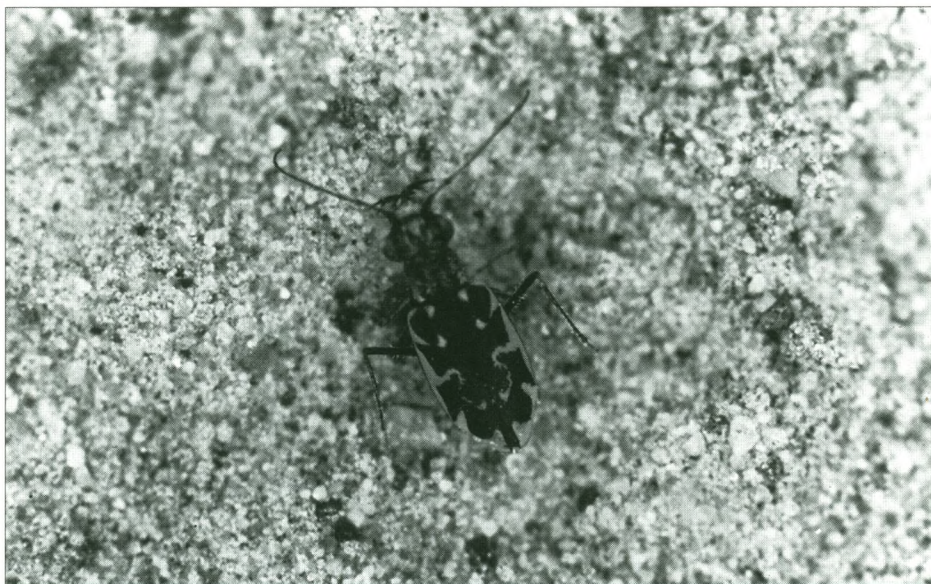
Dr. Phil Nothnagle is again monitoring the globally endangered Puritan tiger beetle (*Cicindela puritana*) and assessing the impacts of changes in streamflow patterns on the beetle. This work began in May 1997.

Through funding from the Bernice Barbour Foundation, Lori Benoit is conducting marsh bird surveys within select Tidelands marshes. This work began in May and continued into early July.

The chapter worked with three Tidelands area land trusts during the 1997 field season. Both the Chester Land Trust and the Essex Land Conservation Trust are sponsoring interns to conduct inventories of aquatic invertebrates within the respective towns' marshes. The Old Lyme Conservation Trust is also sponsoring an intern to map the vegetation along the Black Hall River.

Connecticut College, DEP and the chapter are cooperating on a tidal wetlands restoration project within the Great Island marsh complex. The chapter sponsored an intern from Connecticut College to assist with monitoring during the 1997 field season.

© Denise Simmonds



The Puritan tiger beetle (*Cicindela puritana*), the rarest creature in Connecticut, has been the subject of ongoing research supported by the chapter.

Working with the DEP's Wildlife Division, the chapter assisted with efforts to observe osprey platforms in the Old Lyme and East Lyme areas between April and June. The goal is to determine why osprey productivity has recently declined at Great Island, Old Lyme.

OTHER CONNECTICUT RESEARCH

Continuing:

Dr. Randy Chambers of Fairfield University received a 1995 Tidal Wetlands Research Grant to examine environmental factors influencing the growth of common reed near the mouth of the Housatonic River. His two-year project contains both field and laboratory components and has produced a final report.

The chapter used an H. Allen Mali grant to support Georgianne Copley's work on featherfoil, a rare aquatic plant. Copley, a UConn graduate student, will determine important life-history information for this species. A final report will be submitted to the Conservancy in 1998.

UConn graduate students continue their assessment of the biology of the large-leaved sandwort, a rare plant restricted to unusual rocky habitats in Connecticut and Massachusetts. Their work, funded by an H. Allen Mali grant, will conclude with a final report in 1998.

New:

A Yale student has been provided funding through the chapter's H. Allen Mali Grants program to conduct an aquatic and terrestrial survey of amphibians at the Conservancy's Robbins Swamp Preserve. This work began in May and will be completed in 1998.

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY'S NATURAL HISTORY WALKS ARE FUN AND INFORMATIVE — GEARED TOWARD PROVIDING A COMFORTABLE LEARNING EXPERIENCE WHILE ALSO INTRODUCING YOU TO GREAT PLACES TO WALK AND CANOE. YOU WILL LEARN ABOUT NATURAL HISTORY AND ECOLOGY OF A NUMBER OF SITES. FOR INFORMATION AND TO REGISTER, CALL THE CHAPTER OFFICE AT 860-344-0716. BECAUSE WE WISH TO PROVIDE A HIGH QUALITY EXPERIENCE, PARTICIPATION IS LIMITED, AND RESERVATIONS ARE REQUIRED. PLEASE BE CONSIDERATE; IF YOU MUST CANCEL, GIVE US A CALL SO THOSE ON A WAITING LIST CAN BE CONTACTED. A MAP AND OTHER INFORMATION WILL BE MAILED TO YOU SHORTLY BEFORE THE WALK. WE WILL GO RAIN OR SHINE! PLEASE, NO PETS.

© Bruce Kestner



Fern field at Iron Mountain Preserve.

Hollenbeck Preserve, Canaan

Saturday, September 20, 10 a.m. to noon
Limited to 20

Please join Sunny Valley Preserve Director Chris Wood for an excursion in the lovely northwest highlands of Connecticut. This exemplary and highly diverse calcareous (limestone based) forested wetland is a patchwork of micro-habitats and presents an intriguing array of fascinating species. Open fields replete with birds and a meandering river add to its beauty. The terrain is flat and the walking will be easy.

Iron Mountain, Kent

Saturday, October 25, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m.
Limited to 20

Travel to the Western Highlands of Connecticut to explore this beautiful hardwood forest. Explore communities of huckleberry, blueberry and fern, and discover some of the unusual species common in northern forests. Remnants of charcoal pits and iron mines are scattered throughout the landscape and add to the historical aspect of this walk.

Robert Neumann, an assistant professor in the Department of Natural Resources Management and Engineering at UConn, conducted research in conjunction with a graduate student on the role of woody debris as habitat for trout in Connecticut Rivers. This project is also funded by an H. Allen Mali grant and began in May 1997.

The study of the common reed *Phragmites australis* has been a major focus for the chapter and its grants program. Letitia Garcia, a UConn graduate student, has received funding from the H. Allen Mali Grants program to supplement her research entitled "Phragmites: Impact on invertebrate biodiversity and its invertebrate fauna." She is studying this invasive species at three core sites of the Connecticut River Tidelands and at Moore Brook in Salisbury. She will complete this project in May of 1998.

Eileen Jokinen, the Associate Director of the Institute of Water Resources at UConn has received funding from the H. Allen Mali Research Grants program to investigate vernal pools. This research will provide key information about vernal pools to The Nature Conservancy. Jokinen began her study in May 1997.

Kent Land Trust Assumes Management of Currie Sanctuary

In April of this year, the Connecticut Chapter transferred the 80-acre John B. Currie Sanctuary in Kent to the Kent Land Trust. Donated to The Nature Conservancy in 1974 by Beth Currie, the land is now owned and managed by the land trust. As part of any such transfer, the Conservancy retains a legal interest in the land and will continue to monitor the preserve annually.

Beth Currie generously created an endowment for the care of the preserve, and the Conservancy transferred these funds to the land trust as well. As the Conservancy continues to protect additional lands across the state, we are very fortunate to have such a large and capable network of land trusts with which to work. "The local presence afforded by land trust ownership will benefit the preserve," said Chapter Director of Science & Stewardship Judy Preston. "They are a first-rate organization, and with the Conservancy's continued involvement at the site, we're excited about the future of this preserve."

"We are looking forward to the opportunity to work with such a nice piece of property," said Kent Land Trust President Harmon Smith. "We hope people will enjoy the preserve, and we will be working on improving the trails so that they can accommodate future visitation." The preserve is open for passive recreation only, and a connecting trail to the adjacent Macedonia Brook State Park is a possibility, according to Smith.

Situated on a steep, south-facing slope, the soils on the preserve are shallow, with exposed bedrock in some areas. The vegetation found here is therefore adapted to drier conditions; typical of the preserve are huckleberry and blueberry in the understory with oak and hickory forest forming the canopy.

— DAVID GUMBART



John B. Currie Sanctuary, Kent.

Wings of the Americas Flies to Panama

As bird habitat disappears in the U.S. and other countries, how can conservation groups across the Americas best protect these migratory creatures? That is the question the Conservancy seeks to answer through Wings of the Americas, a new international bird conservation initiative.

Hoping to share her experience and to learn more, Dr. Lise Hanners, assistant director of the Devil's Den Preserve in Weston and Redding, traveled to Panama last November to attend a Wings of the Americas workshop.

Twenty-five researchers from seven Central American countries attended the meeting. The Conservancy invited them to present the bird conservation work currently underway in each country, and discuss what each partner organization needs in order to advance its efforts.

At the meeting, Dr. Hanners shared the results of research she and Den Director Dr. Stephen Patton had conducted on neotropical migrants — bird species that migrate to the Latin American and Caribbean tropics. Dr. Chandler Robbins of the National Biological Service and Dr. David Ewert of the Conservancy's Michigan Chapter also made presentations on their research.

Representatives of each Central American country then presented their research and the results of their work. Research ranged from the struggle to complete an inventory of birds in El Salvador to sophisticated studies of birds in the shade coffee plantations of Guatemala. The challenges these researchers face are striking, including few resources, little training, and often experiencing personal risk. "The needs and issues within each country are so varied throughout Central America that it makes a unified conservation effort difficult to achieve," said Dr. Hanners.

Nonetheless, by the end of the week the group developed a two-year action plan for bird conservation in Central America, which identified basic ornithological training as a top priority. Toward that end, the Conservancy will conduct a training workshop this year to teach members of its partner organizations about basic bird identification, banding techniques, inventory methods, and how to design research projects to glean the most important information.

Dr. Hanners and Dr. Patton will remain involved with this important international initiative.



Representatives of seven Central American countries attended the Wings of the Americas Workshop in Panama.

THE NATURE CONSERVANCY

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Land Trust Service Bureau

(860) 344-9867
Laurie Boynton, Acting Director

The Den Preserve

(203) 226-4991
Dr. Stephen Patton, Director

Sunny Valley Preserve

(203) 355-3716
Christopher S. Wood, Director

Corporate Advisory Board

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Transmission System
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Group, Merrill Lynch

From the Land

Published quarterly for the members of
The Nature Conservancy Connecticut Chapter

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Executive Director Denise Schlener addresses new members.

New Members Attend Orientation

Nearly 30 new members from throughout the state came to Middletown on May 14 to attend the chapter's first reception for new members. Chapter staff from the land protection, science & stewardship, and development programs answered questions and thanked the new members, all of whom had joined the Conservancy in 1996.

Executive Director Denise Schlener spoke about the chapter's conservation work and why it is so critical to continue preserving Connecticut's natural heritage. Land Protection Director Laurie Boynton addressed specific areas where the chapter is currently focusing its efforts, such as projects along the Connecticut River and the state's northwest corner.

The positive response to this inaugural event was outstanding, and we plan to repeat this orientation for other new members in the future. We were happy to meet our new members and tell them about our work. A big thank you to all the members who attended!

The chapter's Middletown office is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, except for federal holidays.

— VUNAY TALBOT

14th Annual Land Trust Convocation Challenge Awards

At the 14th annual Convocation of Land Trusts in April, the Land Trust Service Bureau recognized seven of its member organizations for exceptional accomplishments in the past year.

The bureau presented the Stewardship Challenge Award to the Joshua's Tract Conservation and Historic Trust. Trust volunteers donated more than 200 hours for boundary marking, helping local property caretakers maintain nearly 15 miles of trails, and building a 26-foot-long bridge across a brook on the trust's Friedman Forest Trail.

The Branford and Guilford Land Trusts each received an Award for Teamwork, Fundraising and Protection. The bureau presented this unusual "multiple" award for a joint project initiated by the two trusts over the past year: an effort to preserve an important 47-acre tract of land along a state-designated scenic road in Branford and Guilford. The land trusts jointly raised \$120,000, enough to purchase the property and set aside a significant stewardship account to support their joint stewardship program.

The Deep River Conservation Trust received the Communication Challenge Award for its beautifully photographed and produced 1997 calendar. This calendar

featured photographs of the Deep River area taken by several board members. The photo effort also resulted in a slide show that the Deep River Conservation Trust uses around the area to promote its efforts in land preservation and membership development.

The Redding Land Trust received a Communication Challenge Honorable Mention Award for the publication of its "Thirty Years of a Great Idea" brochure, which celebrates the land trust's three decades of preservation in Roxbury.

The bureau presented its Outreach Challenge Award to the Trumbull Land Trust for its outstanding work with Bridgeport youth and Habitat for Humanity. The land trust has been using funds from a number of grants to fund seminars at a site in Monroe for children from surrounding towns, including 18 Bridgeport inner-city youth, all of whom were on probation or parole. The Bridgeport youths are enrolled in a training program run by the land trust that is rehabilitating homes for Habitat for Humanity. The grants have also provided funding for backyard habitats on Bridgeport's east side. The Trumbull Land Trust plans to continue this work in years ahead.

Finally, the bureau presented this year's Preservation Challenge Award to the

Roxbury Land Trust for its work in preserving the 130-year-old historic mining ovens at the Trust's Mine Hill Preserve. This preservation effort is an \$80,000 venture! In addition to the preservation of the mining ovens, the land trust has joined the Federal Forest Stewardship program for that preserve.

— LESLIE MACLISE-KANE

© Leslie MacLise-Kane



Ex-Land Trust Service Bureau Director Lesley Olsen (left) presents the stewardship challenge award to Jo Ann Reynolds of the Joshua's Tract Conservation & Historic Trust. Please see article on Lesley on page 14.

Same Faces, New Jobs



Ann Colson has been named to the position of volunteer coordinator for the Connecticut Chapter. Having served as receptionist/staff assistant at our Middletown office for more than three years, Ann is a familiar face and voice to many of our members. In this newly-created job, she will be working closely with volunteers from throughout the state as they assist us in our mission of preserving biodiversity.



Helene Fenger was recently promoted to the position of annual giving manager. Beginning in 1995 as the annual giving coordinator, Helene has been responsible for chapter appeals, Annual Fund events, and the Acorn membership program. Many of her duties will continue as she also takes responsibility for the Annual Fund and Charter Oak Council memberships.

New Staff



Katherine Doak began work in May as chapter land protection specialist. Katherine joins the Connecticut Chapter after five years with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in Charleston, S.C. conducting wetland regulatory and outreach activities in both South Carolina and North Carolina. She also promoted long-term habitat conservation through the Service's Coastal Ecosystems Program. Previously, she worked as staff biologist with Law Environmental, Inc. in South Carolina, conducting natural resource surveys, wetland delineations, and mitigation monitoring. Katherine is a 1990 graduate of Connecticut College with a major in human ecology and minor in economics, and a fall 1988 graduate of the Williams College-Mystic Seaport Maritime Studies Program.



Mark Queirolo recently began work at The Nature Conservancy as development associate. His previous jobs include copywriter at MicroWarehouse and associate editor at the Institute of Children's Literature. Mark graduated with a B.A. in English from The College of the Holy Cross and spent his Junior year studying at Oxford University, England.



Lyn Traverse joins The Nature Conservancy as director of development and communication with more than two decades of fundraising and public relations experience. She has served as director of development at the Ethel Walker School in Simsbury and the Forman School in Litchfield, and has held positions at New York University, the University of Hartford, and Saint Joseph College.



If you call the Connecticut Field Office you will likely hear the friendly voice of our new human resources assistant and receptionist, **Jodi Hinkle**. Jodi joins us after several years as human resources and payroll administrator at Prague Shoe Co. in Glastonbury. Outside the office she enjoys capturing wildlife with her camera and spoiling her cats.



Geoff Huit joined the Connecticut Chapter this summer to assume the position of preserve steward. Before joining the Conservancy staff, Geoff served as a U.S. Peace Corps Volunteer working on an agroforestry project in the East African nation of Tanzania. His interests include hiking, mountain biking, photography, and anything near the ocean.



Beth Farnsworth took over as the chapter's stewardship ecologist in May. Beth has more than a dozen years experience as a field ecologist in near and far-flung places including Belize, Alaska, Australia, South Africa and New England. She has also worked in environmental consulting and legislation, professional writing and illustration, and educational administration. She is soon to complete her doctorate at Harvard University, with a focus on plant biology (although she enjoys chasing animals and analyzing rocks, too). When not scrambling around field sites she is singing, playing guitar, gardening and hoping that someday the Red Sox will win the World Series.

Volunteer Profile

The Connecticut Chapter was very fortunate to have the help of multi-talented volunteer **Jocelyn Forbush** from October 1996 until last June.

Jocelyn helped out in the office on a regular basis performing a variety of tasks, including the unglamorous but vital ones like stuffing envelopes for mailings to our members.

"I was changing my career focus, and I was interested in finding out how an organization like the Conservancy worked," Jocelyn said. "I wanted to find out what kind of jobs there were, and what role I could play in serving the environment in some way."

While volunteering at the Conservancy, Jocelyn was also working as a research assistant and laboratory technician for a professor at Yale. In the past, she had worked in a laboratory on the coast of Maine, conducting research on molecular and cellular physiology of marinelife. You might guess that Jocelyn was a science major, but she actually holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in music performance, and now free-lances as a French horn player.

The chapter has lost Jocelyn for now to the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, where she is studying natural resource conservation and land-use management. We hope to work with Jocelyn again, as she has expressed an interest in working for an environmental group such as the Conservancy. Good luck, Jocelyn ... and see you soon!

— JOHN MATTHIESSEN

Joseph J. Dowhan of the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service congratulates Dr. Juliana Barrett at her farewell party at the Connecticut River Museum.



Goodbye, friends!

This summer the chapter said goodbye to **Dr. Juliana Barrett**, the chapter's Geoffrey C. Hughes director of the Tidelands of the Connecticut River program.

Juliana became director of the Tidelands program in 1993. Among her accomplishments as Tidelands director were supervising a comprehensive study of the submerged aquatic vegetation in the lower Connecticut River; developing a partnership with the University of Connecticut Cooperative Extension System on watershed scale planning; initiating a water quality monitoring program in concert with the Connecticut River Watch Program and Northeast Utilities; and organizing the first Tidelands

of the Connecticut River Symposium last year.

Before that, Juliana had been chapter stewardship ecologist, analyzing biological components of lands in which the chapter was interested and creating preserve designs. In 1990 and 1991, she headed a team of biologists in the chapter's first Connecticut River biological inventory.

Juliana and her husband, Dr. Nels Barrett, now live on Cape Cod, where Nels is conducting a biological inventory and monitoring program for the University of Rhode Island in cooperation with the Cape Cod National Seashore. They had a second son, Eric, in August.

— JOHN MATTHIESSEN



The chapter bid farewell to Land Protection Specialist **Lesley Olsen** on February 28. Lesley, who had worked at the chapter since 1985 and became director of the Land Trust Service Bureau last December, co-founded a company with another former chapter staff member, Pat Anderson. The company, It's Elementary, provides environmental education for children ages three to eight, with an initial focus on the lower Connecticut River. Good luck, Lesley!



Colleen MacNeil Freeman left the Connecticut Chapter in July after working as director of development and as capital gifts officer since 1993. Colleen made many friends at the Conservancy while raising vital funds for capital projects for Connecticut and other programs, as well as directing the chapter development team. She is now working hard at being a grandmother ... tougher than fundraising, Colleen?

Climb Aboard!

This 35-foot boat, crafted from a single tree by Choco Indians in Panama's Darien Region, transported eight Connecticut Chapter members around the sparsely-populated eastern shore of the immense Gulf of San Miguel on Panama's Pacific coast. While staying at the 65,000-acre Punta Patiño Preserve, which the Conservancy assisted its partner organization ANCON in purchasing

in 1991, the Connecticut group used the boat to visit the remote Choco village of Mogue.

As part of the chapter's trip this past March, the members traveled through the Talamanca Region of Costa Rica, sleeping in screened cabins in the midst of a coastal rainforest, and visiting an agricultural cooperative which processes organic produce from 1,000 indigenous farmers. After cross-

ing the border into Panama, the group stayed in the island town of Bocas del Toro, from which they visited the islands of the Bastimentos National Park. They then flew to Cana, ANCON's camp in the middle of the 1.5 million-acre Darien National Park. At each site, they observed spectacular wildlife, and the work that ANCON is doing with local communities to preserve the critical habitats in their midst.

— DAVID SUTHERLAND



Saddle Up for Open Farm Day!

Saturday, October 11 is Open Farm Day at the Sunny Valley Preserve in New Milford. Admission is free to this annual event now in its fifth year. Come pet the animals, inspect farm equipment, and enjoy a fall day on the farm. Hayride tickets and pumpkins will be for sale. For more information please call (860) 355-3716.



© John Mathiasen

Mushroom Walk at the Den
 Saturday, Sept. 20, 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.
 Sandy Sheine of the Connecticut/Westchester
 Mycological Association (COMA) will identify
 mushrooms. Bring a magnifying lens.

Saugatuck Valley Trails Day Hike
 Sunday, Sept. 21, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 Eric Nelson and Phil Poirier will guide hikers
 along approximately 10 miles of gloriously
 varied scenery starting at The Den and ending
 near Saugatuck Falls in Redding. Call The Den
 for information.

Adult Hike at the Den
 Tuesday, Sept. 23, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
 This hike will celebrate the beginning of fall leaf
 color at the largest dedicated nature preserve in
 southwestern Connecticut. Leaders: Julia and
 Frank Conway. No registration required.

Workday at The Den
 Saturday, Sept. 27, 9 a.m. to noon
 Volunteers will get the trails ready for the many
 fall visitors.

Work Party, Griswold Point, Old Lyme
 Saturday, Sept. 27, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
 Help pick up litter and remove fencing materi-
 als. Hours are strictly limited by tides. Please
 call to register and for directions.

Hawk Watch at Sunny Valley
 Sunday, Sept. 28, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
 Join veteran birder Art Titus at Wewaka
 Brook Farm and Natural Area, Bridgewater,
 where he will point out hawks and other
 interesting birds.

Six-Mile Hike
 Sunday, Sept. 28, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.
 Tom Failla and Natural History Guide Marci
 Kendall will lead this hike along trails on the
 west side of The Den up to the Great Ledge
 with its panoramic view of the reservoir below.
 On the way, participants will learn about the
 human and natural history of the area. Call The
 Den for information.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ...

... **work parties**, please call David
 Gumbart at (860) 344-0716.

... **The Den or Katharine Ordway
 preserves**, please call (203) 226-4991.

... **The Sunny Valley Preserve** please
 call (860) 355-3716

*Advance registration required for all walks,
 unless noted otherwise, and number of partic-
 ipants is usually limited to 20.*

Mushrooms and Fungi
 at Katharine Ordway Preserve
 Sunday, Sept. 28, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
 Sue Roth will identify these intriguing and
 mysterious plants. Bring a magnifying lens.

Family Nature Walk at The Den
 Sunday, Oct. 5, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
 Amy Beebe and Benjamin Oko will guide
 this walk during the most colorful month of
 the year.

Fall Leaves and Trees
 at Katharine Ordway Preserve
 Sunday, Oct. 5, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
 At the height of the leaf season, arborist Fred
 Moore will identify trees at the arboretum
 and preserve.

Hawk Watch at The Den
 Thursday, Oct. 9, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
 Larry Fischer will identify migrating raptors at
 Deer Knoll. Kestrels and Sharp-shinned Hawks
 should be in flight. Bring binoculars.

Open Farm Day at Sunny Valley
 Saturday, Oct. 11, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 See page 15.

Five Mile Hike
 Monday, Oct. 13, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
 Celebrate Columbus Day exploring trails in
 Redding with Leaders Jonathan Brochstein and
 Phil Poirier. Carpooling to the start, participants
 will investigate the Reeve Biggers Trail and a
 loop at the Saugatuck Falls Natural Area. Call
 The Den for information.

East Meets West
 Sunday, Oct. 19, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 This 8- to 10-mile Saugatuck Valley Trails Day
 Hike will start at The Den's West Branch and
 hike to the reservoir's East (or main) Branch of
 the Saugatuck River with a stop at the Great
 Ledge overlook for lunch. Led by Charlie
 Gereg, Cia Marion, and Peg Peterson. Call The
 Den for information.

Fall Fliers at Sunny Valley
 Sunday, Oct. 19, 8 a.m. to 11 a.m.
 Experienced birder Angela Dimmit leads the
 search on the New Milford trails. See a wide
 variety of birds, possibly including peregrine
 falcon and black vulture.

**Adult Hike at
 Katharine Ordway Preserve**
 Monday, Oct. 20, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
 Penny Kemp and Helene Weatherill will lead
 this hike through spectacular fall foliage. No
 registration required.

The Devil Did It! at The Den
 Sunday, Oct. 26, Sunday 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
 This hike of just over three miles will feature
 the mysterious footprint in a rock that gave
 Devil's Den its name. Leaders: Penny Kemp, Cia
 Marion, and Anthony Vaz.

Owl Prowl at The Den
 Saturday, Nov. 1, 7:30 pm. to 9:30 p.m.
 A warm night in autumn after most of the
 leaves have fallen is a great time to look for
 owls. Larry Fischer will help search for both
 migrant and resident species. Bring binoculars
 and a flashlight. Minimum age: 10.

Saugatuck Valley Trails Day Hike
 Sunday, Nov. 2, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 Hikers will learn local history and watershed
 management from Bill Lyon of the Bridgeport
 Hydraulic Company and Den Trail Adopter Phil
 Poirier on this eight-mile hike. Participants will
 carpool to the start in Redding and hike back
 along reservoir trails to the parking site. Call
 The Den for information.

Workday at Katharine Ordway Preserve
 Sunday, Nov. 2, 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.
 Volunteers will learn techniques of trail
 maintenance while preparing the preserve and
 arboretum for winter.

Hawk Watch at The Den
 Saturday, Nov. 8, 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
 Eagles and red-tailed hawks should be
 coming through on their way south. Larry
 Fischer will help identify them at Deer Knoll.
 Bring binoculars.

Peak Performance at Devil's Den
 Sunday, Nov. 9, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.
 This eight-mile hike will encounter the high
 spots at The Den and the Redding Great Ledge.
 With leaves off the trees, the views should be at
 their best. Leaders: Charlie Gereg, Leonard
 Horowitz, and Peg Peterson.

Mosses and Lichens at The Den
 Sunday, Nov. 16, 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
 Sue Roth will identify these varied, rugged, and
 abundant plants that can survive extreme
 weather conditions and provide year-round
 interest. Bring a magnifying lens.

Preserve Monitor Training Workshop
 Wednesday, Nov. 19, 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at
 Middletown Office; Saturday, November
 22, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at Selden Creek
 Preserve, Lyme
 This two-part training program is for preserve
 monitors and other interested volunteers.
 For more information call Preserve Steward
 Geoff Huit at (860) 344-0716.

Lyme Students Adopt Salmon



When Lyme students released their Atlantic salmon "fries" in May, it was a schoolwide event led by salmon puppets the students made. (Drawing by Jennifer Yee, grade 5)

With help from the Conservancy and numerous other agencies, students at Lyme Consolidated School raised Atlantic salmon for release this spring into the Eightmile River, a tributary of the Connecticut River that runs behind the school.

This school-wide effort heightened the students' awareness and sense of responsibility toward the extraordinary region in which they live. It has also given them an opportunity to take part in an effort with real-world significance in their own community.

It began last fall, when Polly Richter, a Nature Conservancy employee with a son in the school, phoned Steve Gephard of the Marine Fisheries Unit of the state Department of Environmental Protection. Gephard said that if the school could secure funding and set up equipment by December, he could provide 200 salmon eggs for the kids to hatch and raise for release as fry (one-and-a-half-inch-long salmon just starting to feed). Gephard arranged contact with the Connecticut River Salmon Association, which coordinates school-based salmon restoration efforts in the state. Other schools that raised salmon this year included Hartford area and Greenwich High Schools and the North Haven Middle School.

With the advice of CRSA, the school obtained curricular guides to raising salmon from the Atlantic Salmon Federation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. As a result, students have studied the fish's life cycle and habitat, the human impacts that led to its

dramatic decline — dams, pollution, and overfishing — and the steps necessary to restore this wild species. (In 1975 salmon spawned in the Connecticut River for the first time in a century.) Students have produced their own newsletter, video, books,

puppets, and song, organized several clean-ups in the river area, viewed the beating hearts of the fish under a microscope, tracked data, and made presentations.

Many of these children will inherit the stewardship of this region as residents and landowners. School projects of this kind not only teach kids about salmon but cultivate in them the capacity to solve problems and make good decisions with respect to preserving their environment.

In 1993 The Nature Conservancy designated the Tidelands of the Connecticut River one of 40 international Last Great Places. In 1994, the Ramsar Convention designated it a "Wetland of International Importance," one of the first 15 in the United States to receive that special recognition.

— POLLY RICHTER

Corporations Care

Your company cares about your volunteer efforts and the charitable organizations you choose to support!

At a recent meeting of our Corporate Associates Advisory Board, board members reminded us that many corporations want to share their corporate contribution decisions with their employees. Indeed, many companies make those decisions based on their employees' interests.

Corporate Associates are companies that make a membership donation of \$1,000 or more annually. When the chapter asks companies to become Corporate Associates, we are often asked how many of their employees are individual members of the Conservancy.

It would help us raise vital corporate funding if we had more information on this subject. Please consider filling out the box below and returning it to the Connecticut Chapter. We will only use the data we collect in aggregate form; all individual information you choose to share will be strictly confidential.

P.S. Many corporations match their employees' charitable donations. If you work for such a company, be sure to include your matching gift form with your next contribution — you can instantly double the power of your donation!

Name and address (optional): _____

Employer (company name): _____

City or town of employment: _____

Please return to The Nature Conservancy, 55 High St., Middletown CT 06457-3788.

37th Annual Meeting October 4 at

Please join staff, trustees, members, and special guests for the 37th Annual Meeting of The Nature Conservancy Connecticut Chapter Saturday, October 4 at the Hollenbeck Preserve in Falls Village.

The Hollenbeck Preserve, the chapter's newest, is a scenic 187-acre parcel on the Hollenbeck River at the southern end of Canaan's Robbins Swamp, the state's largest inland wetland.

9:30 A.M. Registration & Refreshments

10:00 A.M. Annual Business Meeting

Greetings and Opening
ANTHONY P. GRASSI, *Chair*

Financial Report

EUNICE S. GROARK, *Treasurer*

The Year in Review

DENISE SCHLENER,

Executive Director

Report of the Nominating
Committee

Election of Trustees and Officers
PETER B. COOPER, *Secretary*

11:00 A.M. Awards Ceremony

11:30 A.M. Guest Speaker:

DR. DEBORAH JENSEN

Vice President, Conservation
Science Division

The Nature Conservancy
"Conservation Planning for the
21st Century"

12:30 P.M. Lunch

1:30 P.M. Depart for Field Trips

GUEST SPEAKER



Dr. Deborah

B. Jensen is
The Nature
Conservancy's
vice president
for conservation
science. As the
organization's
senior scientist,
she is responsi-

ble for all scientific activities of the organization's domestic and international programs.

Deborah received her Ph.D. in energy and resources from the University of California at Berkeley. She participated in the Organization of Tropical Studies course in Tropical Ecology in Costa Rica, and has received numerous fellowships, including the Department of Energy's Global Change Fellowship and the Switzer Foundation Fellowship. Her first book, "In Our Own Hands: A Strategy for Conserving Biodiversity in California" (Jensen, Torn & Harte) was published by the University of California Press in 1993.

Previous to her current position, Deborah was the Conservancy's director of stewardship. She has also been a private consultant, a university lecturer, and program manager for the California Natural Diversity Database.

NOMINATIONS TO THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Nominated for three-year term for election by the membership:

JOHN E. SILLIMAN, WEST HARTFORD

John Silliman retired in 1993 as a partner at Murtha, Cullina, Richter, and Pinney in Hartford after 29 years. His grandfather, Reuben D. Silliman, owned a portion of Sage's Ravine in Salisbury from 1928 to 1948 — land the Conservancy later protected — and John Silliman fished and hiked on the property as a young man. He is president of the Twin Lakes Association in Salisbury.

Nominated for one year as officers for election by the board:

ANTHONY P. GRASSI, WILTON, *Chair*

DANIEL P. BROWN JR., WEST GRANBY,
Vice Chair, Land Acquisition

AUSTIN D. BARNEY II, WEST SIMSBURY,
Vice Chair, Development

DR. KENT E. HOLSINGER, HARTFORD,
Vice Chair, Stewardship

EUNICE S. GROARK, HARTFORD
Treasurer

MARY M. ACKERLY, NORFOLK
Secretary

Nominated for re-election for a three-year terms:

DIANA ATWOOD-JOHNSON, OLD LYME

RONALD W. JEITZ, WESTON

JOHN A. MILLINGTON, WASHINGTON DEPOT

Hollenbeck Preserve, Falls Village

Annual Meeting Reservation Form

Please reply by Tuesday, September 30, 1997

Complete and return to The Nature Conservancy, 55 High Street, Middletown, CT 06457

Name of each member attending (for nametags):

Address _____

Day phone _____ Evening phone _____

Number attending business meeting only _____ @ no charge.

Any Connecticut Chapter member may attend our annual business meeting free of charge. We appreciate the support of our members in helping us cover the costs of refreshments, venue, and other expenses of hosting this meeting and other activities.

Number attending _____ @ \$25 each

Includes box lunch, juice, morning refreshments and field trip.

Number of non-vegetarian box lunches: _____

Number of vegetarian box lunches: _____

Please indicate below the number attending each field trip.

_____ Hollenbeck Preserve _____ Iron Mountain
_____ Appalachian Trail _____ Cathedral Pines

The meeting will take place rain or shine. In case of extreme weather, please call the chapter office at (860) 344-0716.

Directions will be sent upon registration. Please, no pets.
Please make checks payable to The Nature Conservancy.

We look forward to seeing you!

FIELD TRIPS

Cathedral Pines Walk, Cornwall (moderate, 90 minutes) — In ten minutes in 1989, three funnel clouds forever changed Connecticut's largest stand of old growth pine and hemlock. Join Science and Stewardship Director Judy Preston on a tour of this fascinating site.

Iron Mountain Reservation, Kent (moderate, 90 minutes) — Join Den Directors Drs. Steve Patton and Lise Hanners for a tour of this 283-acre preserve, which supports a northern hardwood forest with habitat for interior nesting birds and a variety of other fauna.

Hollenbeck Preserve Orientation Tour, Falls Village (leisurely, one hour) — Stewardship Ecologist Beth Farnsworth leads a tour including vistas of rugged Canaan Mountain and Cobble Hill, extensive meadows, the Hollenbeck River, and a floodplain forest.

Lion Head Spur, Appalachian Trail, Salisbury (moderate to strenuous, 90 minutes) — Join Sunny Valley Preserve Director Chris Wood for a hike up the Lion Head Spur to the Appalachian Trail on beautiful Mount Riga. View the entire northwest corner in its fall finery!



Hollenbeck Preserve, Falls Village

Have you heard the good news? The life income rate just went up!*

© J. Hough for Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology



LEGACY CLUB MEMBERS

The Connecticut Chapter is pleased to acknowledge and thank the following new Legacy Club members — those who have chosen to remember the Conservancy in their will or estate plans. Please allow us to recognize your commitment. If the Conservancy is in your estate plans, or if you would like sample bequest language or information about planned gifts, contact Carol Kimball at the Connecticut Chapter field office at (860) 344-0716.

Mrs. Frank Calhoun
Frank & Julie Conway
Laurie W. Boynton & Carl Ye
Charlotte Colby Danly
John R. Draves
Mr. & Mrs. A.J. Duffield
Joan L. Faust
Peter S. Hawkins
Edward & Ruth Hildreth
Gertrude Dick Hillman
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Mrs. George G. Tennant, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Paul van der Stricht
Mrs. Huntington P. Welch
Doris E. Whitbeck
Mrs. Christopher Young

To make a charitable gift annuity, all you need to do is:

- 1) Donate cash or stock with a minimum value of \$5,000.
- 2) Review and sign the charitable gift annuity agreement.
- 3) Receive life income through fixed quarterly payments. You're also making a lasting gift to future generations.

In recognition of your generosity, you will be welcomed to the Legacy Club and become an honorary life member of The Nature Conservancy.

For a proposal detailing income and tax benefits, please return the coupon below or call Carol Kimball at (860) 344-0716.

*Examples of single life annuity rates:

age 50 = 6.5%, age 60 = 6.9%, age 70 = 7.7%, age 80 = 9.4%, age 90 and older = 12%.

Please send me information on charitable gift annuities for The Nature Conservancy.

Name: _____

Address: _____

State _____ Zip _____ Daytime Phone number (____) _____

I am considering a gift of \$_____ in cash stock (minimum gift \$5,000)

Please provide date(s) of birth for illustration: 1. _____ 2. _____

Note: It is important that you consult with your financial advisor about the suitability of such a gift.

Mail this coupon to:

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